

RECORD OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BROOKLINE SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD ON **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016** AT 6:00 PM IN THE JAMES F. WALSH SCHOOL COMMITTEE ROOM, 5TH FLOOR, TOWN HALL. STATUTORY NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS FILED WITH THE TOWN CLERK.

School Committee Members Present: Ms. Ditkoff (Chairman), Mr. Pollak (Vice Chairman), Mr. Chang, Ms. Charlupski, Mr. Glover, Dr. Jackson, Ms. Scotto, Ms. Stone, and Ms. Stram. Also present: Mr. Bott, Ms. Dunn, Ms. Gittens, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Lummis, Ms. Jennings, and Ms. Coyne.

Others Present: Deans Jenee Ramos and Brian Poon; Economic Development Director Kara Brewton, Town Administrator Mel Kleckner, and members of the Board of Selectmen: Chairman Neil Wishinsky, Selectman Nancy Daly, Selectman Ben Franco, Selectman Bernard Greene, and Selectman Nancy Heller; and Jonathan Levi and Philip Gray from Jonathan Levi Architects.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

a. Calendar

Ms. Ditkoff called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. She noted upcoming events on the calendar.

b. Consent Agenda

ACTION 16-57

On a motion of Ms. Charlupski and seconded by Ms. Scotto, the School Committee VOTED (Ms. Stram and Ms. Stone abstained from the vote because they were not at the July 26, 2016 meeting) to approve the items included in the Consent Agenda.

- i. Past Record: July 11, 2016 School Committee Workshop
- ii. Past Record: July 26, 2016 School Committee Meeting
- iii. Past Record: July 26, 2016 Joint Meeting with the Board of Selectmen
- iv. Out-of-Country Student Trip: Brookline High School Global Leadership to World Health Summit International Conference; Berlin, Germany; October 7, 2016-October 13, 2016 (Attachment A)

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Bott provided the following report:

Over the past five days, I have been able to visit each of our PK-8 schools once and had the opportunity to visit Brookline High School twice. Each of our schools had incredibly successful openings.

A special congratulations to the Edward Devotion school community for two successful moves, into the temporary Lower Devotion School at 30 Webster Street and the Upper Devotion School at Old Lincoln. On September 1st, I spent several hours visiting Lower

Devotion, starting the day with parents at a start of school coffee in the rear play area. I then toured the school with Mrs. Buller and Mr. O'Hara. Within the first hour of school, students were immersed in learning and were excited about the start of school. I want to deeply thank the entire Lower Devotion team for so successfully moving grades K-4 into the 30 Webster Street building. The success of the move and the way in which teachers, staff and administration transformed the building captures the deep level of commitment Devotion staff have to each and every Devotion student and family.

Equally impressive and not to be overlooked is the opening of Upper Devotion, grades 5-8, at the Old Lincoln School. I had the opportunity on Friday September 2nd to tour Upper Devotion with Mrs. Crowley. We observed science classes in full swing, fifth grade students fully engaged in literacy work, seventh grade social studies, and much more. I want to thank the Upper Devotion team for their work over two years designing a school, managing the opening of grades seven and eight last year and very successfully adding grades five and six this year. Like with Lower Devotion, the commitment of teachers, staff, and administrators at Upper Devotion is clearly evident through the remarkable work done to open a building and maintain the high quality educational experiences so important to the Devotion community.

Brookline High School also had an incredibly successful opening. On Thursday, ninth grade students entered the high school from Cypress Field into the quadrangle passing through the welcoming, cheering throng of BHS teachers and staff. As Headmaster Meyer noted in a letter to the BHS community, "our ninth grade procession was a beautiful sight. . . it is the best way for us to begin the school year: demonstrating our unity as a faculty and, more importantly, showing our new students how excited we are to work with and support them. A terrific assembly followed with inspirational speeches by the ninth grade deans Lisa Redding and Melanee Alexander as well as some brief words from several junior mentors."

I had the distinct pleasure of seeing the junior mentors leading our freshmen on tours of the BHS campus. I was struck by both the pride our junior mentors showed for the BHS community and was deeply impressed by the level of support they gave to a group of 493 freshmen, many who started the day with very nervous faces. By Friday, after only one day at BHS, the same group of freshmen was all smiles and seemed right at place in our high school.

I want to thank some of our community partners for the integral role they played in BHS's successful opening. Thank you to the Brookline Rotary and B-Good for sponsoring a welcome barbecue for all ninth graders, new tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students. This is a wonderful example of the strong link between our schools and community groups in Brookline.

On Friday September 2nd, through the generous support of the BHS PTO, ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students experienced Dr. Mykee Fowlin's performance entitled "You Don't Know Me Until You Know Me." Both an actor and psychologist, Dr. Fowlin

describes the mission of his work as follows: “to create an atmosphere of worldwide inclusion, not just tolerance, towards all people.” Deputy Superintendent Nicole Gittens and I were able to attend this incredibly powerful performance along with BHS tenth and eleventh grade students. The message of inclusiveness and respect for differences that are at the heart of Dr. Fowlin’s presentation will be key tenants of Brookline High School’s work in the year ahead.

Building a Strong and Cohesive Leadership Team

Over the course of the summer, Senior Staff organized five leadership days to identify priorities, engage in collaborative work and prepare for the new school year. Below are summaries of each day, who participated and what we accomplished.

August 8 and 9, on August 8th and 9th, principals and senior staff engaged in two days of work with the goals of: agreeing on how the leadership team will work together as well as the leadership team focus for the current school year; developing a plan to work collaboratively across all our schools and programs to achieve the four goals of the Public Schools of Brookline. The work of the day included the role of principals as instructional leaders, how to improve the evaluation process so it better supports teachers, and how we will continue to address educational equity.

On August 16th, through the generous support of the Brookline Education Foundation, principals, senior staff, our BHS Headmaster, and our Dean of Faculty participated in a day of team building on Thompson Island. The work of the day included a number of opportunities for senior leadership to work together in a variety of problem solving scenarios, one of which included climbing a ninety-foot alpine tower. The day allowed our team to get to know individual leadership styles and provided the opportunity for the group to develop a problem solving approach where all voices are heard and all perspectives are valued.

On August 23rd, 2016 thirty-five Brookline Public Schools leaders participated in an all-day Title IX investigator training designed for public elementary and secondary school administrators to refresh their knowledge about the risk of gender-based harassment in schools, review relevant law, guidance and regulations related to Title IX, and discuss how to respond to allegations of harassment. The training covered a number of topics including understanding the difference between discrimination, harassment and bullying; undertaking investigations; interviewing techniques; and how to draft an investigatory report. Principals and vice-principals from all Brookline K-8 schools, Brookline High School administrators and system-wide leaders participated in the training led by Attorneys Trina Ingelfinger and Kate Upatham of the Law Office of Elizabeth Sanghavi, LLC in Brookline.

Attendees reviewed case law related to Title IX, the 2010 Office of Civil Rights (OCR) of the Department of Education letter addressing the similarities and differences between bullying and harassment, the Dear Colleague letter released by the OCR in 2011, and the

OCR's 2014 Questions and Answers on Title IX. The group also discussed key resolutions from the Office of Civil Rights and other recent cases.

The training concluded with the trainers guiding participants through a hypothetical investigation during which participants had the opportunity to conduct case planning, interview parties and witnesses, and discuss how to use the information from the hypothetical investigation to draft a report.

Next steps for the group include attending a Title VI (race, color, national origin) investigator training, to be scheduled this fall, finishing the development of consistent district-wide complaint procedures related to discriminatory harassment and review of training needs.

On August 25th, more than 70 of our administrative leaders from across all of our schools met at Wheelock College to kick off the school year together. I opened the meeting by sharing some data including survey data, student learning data, and my impressions of what I've heard over the past few months through listening to and learning from teachers. We broke the group into two and each person participated in two sessions; one on educational equity led by Dr. Suzie Talukdar and myself; and the other on evaluation led by Nicole Gittens and Lesley Miller. In the Education Equity session, our administrators shared personal reactions and stories based on prompts related to diversity and equity. In the evaluation session, administrators discussed and provided input on the evaluation planning for the new year. In the afternoon, the BHS leaders worked together on the Educational Plan for the high school's expansions while PK-8 leaders and Curriculum Coordinators made progress on school-based professional development planning for this year.

Brookline High School Identity Curriculum

Brookline High School launched the Identity Curriculum this summer and it is already having an impact on faculty and classrooms. The mission of BHS's Identity Curriculum is to cultivate student and faculty understanding of race, power, and identity as a basis for empathy, scholarship, and action. It will support teachers to tailor lessons and units in their already-existing curriculum to support this mission. The Identity Curriculum will support departments in integrating four themes into their practice through on-going professional development: Identity; Identity & Community; Identify Race and Power; and Making Choices. Deans Jenee Ramos and Brian Poon are leading the development and implementation of the Identity Curriculum and have already created learning objectives that support each theme and led professional development related to the Identity Curriculum. On opening day for faculty and staff they led a powerful session that put the goals of the Identity Curriculum within the context of recent race- and power-related incidents across the nation and in Brookline and worked with faculty on developing empathy for others and how empathy can lead to action. During this two-hour session, staff first shared personal experiences about identity. Teachers then worked on strategies to incorporate discussions of identity into their lessons as they

begin the school year. Next they agreed on norms for classroom conversations about race and identity and then adopted these norms to be universally used for all classroom conversations. Students closed this session by speaking about how powerful it was for them to see the entire staff working on issues of race, power and identity in order to build empathy with and for students. They also shared how they are beginning to see changes as the conversations are now leading to action. I am very thankful for Jenee's and Brian's leadership, the support from Headmaster Anthony Meyer and the faculty's commitment to this essential work.

Entry Plan Updates

Both Nicole Gittens, Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Sam Zimmerman, Deputy Superintendent of Student Services have recently submitted their Entry Plans to me. Both plans are designed to allow them to begin developing the relationships, and an understanding of people, programs, and services across the schools and district that are essential to their positions. Both Nicole and Sam are meeting with a wide variety of stakeholders within and outside of their departments as well as reviewing documents to help them learn quickly and identify both the short-term steps and the longer-term priorities within their respective offices.

In their initial work, Sam and Nicole have also jumped in, leading our administrative leadership retreat days, analyzing staffing and budgets, participating in hiring as needed and helping their departments open the school year smoothly.

For the Office of Teaching and Learning, Nicole has identified the following initial areas of focus:

- 1. In collaboration with Deputy Superintendent of the Office of Student Services, begin development of a district-wide professional development plan.*
- 2. Support the teacher observation, feedback and evaluation process so that it is aligned with our four district goals.*
- 3. Begin aligning work between curriculum coordinators and principals to create coherent district-wide expectations for proficient instructional practices.*
- 4. Build a cohesive team with among all curriculum coordinators.*

For the Office of Student Services, Sam has identified the following initial areas of focus:

- 1. Connect with staff, faculty, and district leaders and parents including SEPAC to support relationship building.*
- 2. Identify areas of focus for the district after meeting with department teams.*
- 3. Assess the Student Service division operational and organizational strengths and weaknesses.*
- 4. Engage community stakeholders in reflective and transformative planning to identify the components of a five year plan.*
- 5. In collaboration with Nicole Gittens, Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, develop an aligned district wide professional development model.*

In November, both Deputies will provide me with a summary of what they have learned during their Entry Plan process and their identified priorities.

New Administrators for 2016-2017

Sam Zimmerman, Deputy Superintendent of Student Services

Mr. Zimmerman comes to Brookline after serving most recently as Deputy Director of Specialized Instruction for the New York City Department of Education. As Deputy Director, Mr. Zimmerman led the special education team responsible for 251 schools and a total enrollment of 126,000 students in Brooklyn. He worked for the New York City Department of Education for 15 years as a special education teacher, an Administrator of Special Education, and Deputy Network Leader in the New Visions Network 563. Mr. Zimmerman holds a B.A. from the Rochester Institute of Technology and a Masters Degree from Long Island University. He grew up in Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

Wendy Ryder, Director of Special Education, Brookline High School

After serving as PSB's Special Education Administrator for Specialized Programming Ms. Ryder is now the Director of Special Education for Brookline High School. Prior to coming to Brookline in 2015, Ms. Ryder worked as Special Education/Student Services Administrator for City on a Hill Charter Public Schools Network where she established special education/student services departments for the opening of two new high schools within two years. She also served as Special Education Administrator for Howe Manning Elementary School in Middleton, MA for four years and for nine years in the Beverly Public Schools as their Early Childhood Coordinator and Team Chairperson. Wendy started her career in healthcare, working as Director of Rehabilitation Services at Union Hospital in Lynn, MA.

Lisa Redding, Interim Dean of Students, Brookline High School

Lisa Redding has been named Interim Dean of Students at Brookline High School for the 2016-2017 school year. Ms. Redding has been Associate Dean of Students at BHS since 2013. Prior to becoming Associate Dean of Students she was a math teacher at BHS since 2001 teaching Pre-Calculus, Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry and working with the Calculus Project. Ms. Redding was also a member of the Faculty Council and the BHS Legislature and received the Ernest R. Caverly Award in 2011. Prior to working in Brookline, she taught math at Chelsea High School. Ms. Redding earned a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics from Boston College and a M.Ed. in mathematics curriculum and instruction, and a M.Ed. in policy, planning and administration, both from Boston University. Ms. Redding will serve as Dean of Students, filling the position of Anthony Meyer as he serves as the Interim Headmaster for BHS.

Kathleen Hubbard, Interim Curriculum Coordinator, K-8 Math

Kathleen Hubbard has been named the Interim Curriculum Coordinator for K-8 math for the Public Schools of Brookline. Ms. Hubbard has been a math specialist at the Baker School since 2011 and has been a public school educator since 2000. Prior to joining

Brookline in 2011, Ms. Hubbard was a Math Specialist for the Boston Public Schools. She has also been a kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 3rd grade teacher in Franklin, MA and Waltham, MA, and a Math Enhancement teacher in Franklin. Ms. Hubbard began her career in education as a teaching intern at the Lawrence School in Brookline. She has a B.A. from Fairfield University and a M.Ed. in early childhood education from Lesley University.

Jenee Palmer Ramos, Dean of Faculty, Brookline High School

Ms. Ramos worked for many years as an English teacher at Boston Latin School before coming to Brookline to teach at the Lincoln School and BHS. In her nine years in Brookline, Ms. Ramos has led various learning and teaching initiatives including the Literacy Project, Content-area Reading Initiative (CRI), and Identity Curriculum development for grades 9-12. As the Dean of Faculty, Ms. Ramos will serve as the point of alignment for professional development activities, including those associated with race, equity, and diversity hiring, building-wide. In consultation with the Headmaster, Central Office staff, department chairs, and teachers, she will support building-based professional learning, including the development and support of collaborative learning teams to address top priorities such as cultural proficiency, literacy across disciplines, and instructional best practices to support all students.

Isabel Gunther, Vice-Principal, Lincoln Elementary School

Ms. Gunther joins the Public Schools of Brookline after serving for 10 years as an elementary teacher and an assistant principal in New Hampshire. Most recently she was Assistant Principal and Co-Principal at the Hillsboro-Deering Elementary School in Nashua, New Hampshire. Prior to becoming an administrator, Ms. Gunther was a 3rd grade teacher at the Crisp Elementary School also in Nashua and the Beach Street School in Manchester, NH. She began her career as a Title I teacher, teaching small groups of students in need of additional support. Ms. Gunther grew up in Lawrence, MA.

Brendan Kobus, Interim Associate Dean, Brookline High School

Brendan Kobus takes the role of Interim Associate Dean after successfully filling a variety of roles at Brookline High School. Most recently, Mr. Kobus was a special education teacher from 2010 until 2016. Mr. Kobus is also director of the Summer School for BHS. He has served as the Chair of the BHS After School Supports Group, the Co-Chair of the National Honor Society, and the leader of the Special Education Department Advisory Council. Mr. Kobus will serve as Interim Associate Dean while Lisa Redding serves as Interim Dean for Brookline High School.

Dr. David Lemmel – Lead Teacher, African American Latino Scholars Program

Dr. David Lemmel joins the Public Schools of Brookline after five years as the director of University of Massachusetts-Boston's Urban Scholars Program. As the director, Dr. Lemmel supervised the year-round gifted and talented pre-collegiate program that serves 120 urban and first generation students from the Boston Public Schools, and their intensive seven-week Summer Institute on the UMass Boston campus. He was also responsible for developing partnerships with agencies, universities, corporations and

foundations to strengthen the wrap-around services for the program's students. Prior to working for Urban Scholars, Dr. Lemmel was the National Director for the Big Picture Company in Providence, RI and served on the Educational Diversity and Inclusion Team with Jones and Associates in San Diego. Dr. Lemmel is the father of 8th grade twins who attend school in Brookline.

Seph Bartholomew, Special Educator Director for Specialized Programs

Seph Bartholomew comes to the Public Schools of Brookline from the Boston Public Schools where he was Assistant Director of Special Education and Student Services. As Assistant Director, Mr. Bartholomew developed and led system-wide improvements for programming and supports for students with disabilities. Prior to working in Boston, Mr. Bartholomew worked as a Regional Coordinator for the May Institute and an Educational Team Supervisor at the Evergreen Center in Milford, MA. He also is an adjunct instructor for UMass/Boston. Mr. Bartholomew grew up in North Carolina and began his career there as a Life Skills teacher.

Dr. Tina Bozeman, K-12 Curriculum Coordinator for Physical Education & Health

Dr. Tina M. Bozeman has worked as a teacher and administrator for more than 20 years. In 2005, she became the first high school lifetime wellness and physical education teacher to earn National Board Certification. Dr. Bozeman served as the Coordinator for Health, Wellness, Physical Education and JROTC for Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. Prior to moving into administration, Dr. Bozeman taught 10 years at Martin Luther King Magnet High School in Nashville. In 2011, she returned to her beloved Martin Luther King Magnet High School to once again serve as a Lifetime Wellness teacher.

3. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF CURRENT ISSUES

a. Report on July 11, 2016 School Committee Workshop and Timeline for 2016-2017 Goals

Ms. Dittkoff provided a report on the July 11, 2016 School Committee Workshop and the timeline for 2016-2017 Goals. At the Workshop, the School Committee discussed the proposed installation of solar panels at Runkle School, reviewed two proposed financial policies, heard an update on administrative hirings, discussed the 9th Elementary School and Brookline High School Expansion Projects next steps, discussed 2016-2017 School Committee Subcommittee assignments and schedules, and heard Subcommittee updates. Mr. Bott provided an overview of his Entry Plan and Transition. He noted that a critical part of this early entry work is ensuring successful onboarding of the new members of the senior leadership team, building cohesiveness among this group, and working to ensure the successful entry of the many new principals in the Public Schools of Brookline. Longer term, this work will include the development of strategic goals and specific action steps, developed through the listening to and collaboration with educators throughout the Public Schools of Brookline, which will allow for all schools to make progress in meeting the four district goals developed by the School Committee. Ms. Dunn and Mr. Lummis presented a progress report on work accomplished to date on the District-wide Priorities identified by Senior Staff in November 2015. Mr. Lummis

presented the 2015-2016 Staff and Family Surveys-District Highlights. School Subcommittee Chairmen presented some of the issues the Subcommittees may be considering during the 2016-2017 school year.

4. JOINT MEETING OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON 9TH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE SELECTION

The Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee was called to order. School Committee members present: Ms. Ditkoff (Chairman), Mr. Pollak (Vice Chairman), Mr. Chang, Ms. Charlupski, Mr. Glover, Dr. Jackson, Ms. Scotto, Ms. Stone, and Ms. Stram.

Selectmen present: Mr. Wishinsky (Chairman), Ms. Daly, Mr. Franco (After consultation with the State Ethics Commission, Mr. Franco had been advised to recuse himself from participation in the site selection process as his participation would violate Section 19 of Chapter 268a. Mr. Franco joined the meeting at 7:25 PM after a vote was taken to remove certain sites from consideration at this time, noting that he no longer needed to recuse himself from participation in the site selection process as his participation would no longer violate Section 19 of Chapter 268a.), Mr. Greene, and Ms. Heller.

Staff present: Mr. Bott, Mr. Kleckner, Ms. Dunn, and other administrative staff.

Others present: Jonathan Levi and Philip Gray from Jonathan Levi Architects (JLA).

Ms. Ditkoff and Mr. Wishinsky called the Joint Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

a. Review of 9th Elementary School Site Selection Process to Date

Ms. Dunn reviewed the 9th Elementary School Site Selection Process to date (Attachment B). She discussed why Brookline needs a new K-8 elementary school (dramatic and ongoing enrollment growth) and the consequences if we do not build a new elementary school (shortage of 27-30 classrooms across the district at the K-8 level; undersized cafeterias will result in all K-8 schools starting lunch before 10:30 AM; inadequate core facilities such as gymnasiums and libraries will not be addressed; expansion of the use of expensive, short-term solutions such as modular classes and rental space; class sizes continue to increase). Ms. Dunn provided an overview of what Brookline has been doing to address expanding enrollment (2009 Facilities Master Plan created by MGT; 2013 Brookline School Population and Capacity Exploration – B-SPACE – Committee; 2014 Override Study Committee Report; December 2014 Civic Moxie commissioned to identify possible locations for 9th elementary school), expanding in place 2008-2015 (54 classrooms added through Expand-in-Place since 2008; relocated administrative offices from school buildings into rental space; created new classrooms by dividing larger ones; converted hallways, locker rooms, and small rooms into substandard classroom spaces and administrative office space; expanded and utilized buffer zones to distribute enrollment increases across all school to balance overcrowding; reclaimed classrooms dedicated to Extended Day and other programs; spending \$1 million annually for rental space for classroom and administrative offices). Ms. Dunn described the current site selection process (Civic Moxie Report identified 26 possible sites with six identified as most promising; Board of Selectmen and School Committee voted construction of a new elementary school as the preferred solution to address the ongoing

enrollment growth; 14 public meetings; Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Advisory Committee all vote to forego Massachusetts School Building Authority – MSBA – partnership to allow for greater flexibility on cost, design and timeline; based on public input from October through January, Boards voted on further study of three sites: Village School, Beverly Road, and Baldwin/Soule. Ms. Dunn noted that this has been a collaborative effort across town departments and commissions (Planning, Building, Park and Recreation, Advisory Committee and related subcommittees, Preservation Commission, and Conservation Commission).

b. Possible Vote to Remove Some Sites from Further Consideration at this Time

Mr. Wishinsky referred to the September 6, 2016 memo from Town Administrator Mel Kleckner and Superintendent Andrew Bott (Attachment C). He noted the process to date. Back in the spring the Boards voted to study three sites more thoroughly to assist them in making a final selection. The Boards were reluctant to remove other sites from consideration at that time pending reassurance from our outside consultant JLA that the three sites are viable. We now have this assurance and as a result, he would like to move that the Board vote to eliminate other sites from consideration at this time.

Mr. Wishinsky moved and Ms. Ditzkoff seconded the following motion: Vote to remove from consideration at this time the following locations for the siting of a 9th elementary school: Cottage Farm/Amory Street; TJ Maxx-525 Harvard Street; Centre Street Parking Lot/Coolidge Corner; Old Lincoln School/Walnut Street; the Isabel School at Larz Anderson Park; Pine Manor College-Heath Street; Bournemouth Hospital-South Street; and Putterham Meadows. Mr. Greene moved and Ms. Daly seconded an amendment to the main motion to remove from consideration the following sites permanently: Cottage Farm/Amory Street and the Isabel School at Larz Anderson. Mr. Greene stated that these two sites have too many issues. Removing Cottage Farm will enable us to engage with Boston University on the future use of the site, perhaps permanently designating it as open space. Other Board members spoke in opposition to the amendment. The motion to amend the main motion failed: Board of Selectmen – 1 in favor (Mr. Greene) and 3 opposed (Mr. Wishinsky, Ms. Daly, and Ms. Heller); School Committee – 0 in favor and 9 opposed. The Boards then voted on the main motion.

ACTION 16-58

On a motion of Mr. Wishinsky and seconded by Ms. Ditzkoff, the School Committee and Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to remove from consideration at this time the following locations for the siting of a 9th elementary school: Cottage Farm/Amory Street; TJ Maxx-525 Harvard Street; Centre Street Parking Lot/Coolidge corner; Old Lincoln School/Walnut Street; the Isabel School at Larz Anderson Park; Pine Manor College-Heath Street; Bournemouth Hospital-South Street; and Putterham Meadows.

At 7:25 PM Selectman Franco joined the meeting and stated that he no longer needs to recuse himself from participation in the site selection process as his participation would no longer violate Section 19 of Chapter 268a. He will file a report with the Town Clerk.

c. Presentation of 9th Elementary School Site Selection Study

Jonathan Levi and Philip Gray from JLA presented the findings of the three sites under consideration: Beverly Road, Baldwin School, and Village School – Stop & Shop site (Attachment D). Mr. Levi shared the results of the study comparing the sites across 38 different criteria and also presented broad cost ranges for all three sites. He shared illustrative site concepts designed to demonstrate how buildings could potentially be placed on each site. Mr. Levi's firm concluded that all three sites were appropriate for and had the physical capacity to support a school while also describing some of the specific complexities each site presented. He concluded his presentation by asking for Board input on the selection factors and ratings.

d. Board Discussion of Sites under Consideration

Board members asked questions and discussed their impressions of each site.

Ms. Daly disagreed with the Baker traffic rating of advantageous. The addition of that many additional students would likely have a serious negative impact. Mr. Levi suggested that the Boards hear directly from the Traffic Engineer. Ms. Daly also questioned the Baker Storm Water Drainage rating, noting that there is a sensitive ecological area behind the school.

Dr. Jackson asked about the parameters for the definition of parity with other Brookline K-8 schools and proximity to neighbors. Mr. Levi responded that the firm focused on open space when considering parity and focused on overall density of the neighborhood and adjacency to residential structures when considering proximity.

Ms. Scotto questioned the Baker ratings for proximity to neighbors, transportation, and parking. Mr. Levi explained their assumptions and noted that the Baker rating assumes that all teacher parking would be on site.

Ms. Heller asked whether we could improve some of the traffic and parking issues even if we don't select the Baker site. Mr. Levi replied that the current layout is inefficient. Improvements could be made, but this would involve discussion with the Conservation Commission.

In response to questions from Ms. Charlupski, Mr. Levi explained how each of the Baker site concepts would impact parking. He noted that there is more expansion room at Baker because it has 11 acres. The Expanded Village site concept also offers expansion potential.

Ms. Ditkoff requested clarification on the Baker and Baldwin ratings for traffic and safe access for biking and walking. Mr. Gray stated that they assumed that Baker would have a higher percentage of people in the area walking or taking cars and that Baldwin would have a higher percentage of students taking a bus. Ms. Ditkoff stated that this is a complicated issue that needs to take into account the system-wide effect. Mr. Levi agreed and may change this rating to “unable to determine” for all three sites. Ms. Ditkoff shared earlier concerns about the Baker Storm Drainage and Proximity to Neighbors ratings. Mr. Levi reported that he will be having a preliminary discussion with the Conservation Commission tomorrow. Mr. Levi provided further clarification on the cost range for the sites: Baker (\$85M-\$100M); Baldwin (\$85M-\$90M) and Village (\$110M-\$135M for base and \$120M-\$145M for expanded).

Ms. Daly noted that schools all have programs that draw students from throughout the town. Unlike the other two sites, the Baker site is not accessible to public transportation. Mr. Levi stated that he will add Access to Public Transportation as a separate factor (had been a component of sustainability).

Ms. Charlupski questioned the Existing Building Demo rating for Baldwin. Mr. Levi agreed and stated that he may adjust this rating.

Dr. Jackson asked for additional information on vehicle use at Baldwin. Mr. Levi stated that the Park and Recreation Commission has expressed a willingness to share parking spaces and play fields. Article 97 restricts our ability to add vehicle circulation that is solely for the benefit of a school.

In response to a question from Ms. Stram, Mr. Levi explained the Village School queuing alternatives. He stated that Aspinwall access is not essential to the project unless you want to totally separate store and school traffic.

In response to a question from Ms. Heller, Mr. Levi stated that they did not assume solar photovoltaic devices at the Village site. He noted that the school could be oriented to the north and south to facilitate daylight harvesting for classrooms. Ms. Heller asked whether the Baker Wetland Concerns rating should be very disadvantageous (instead of disadvantageous). She asked about the possibility of underground streams at the Village site. Mr. Levi responded that they did not do borings, but did ask their Civil Engineer to do research. They are not aware of any underground streams at the site. He noted that there is a utilities easement along the north side (does not seem to be insurmountable).

Mr. Glover asked how additional expansion of the Village site footprint might impact the configuration. Mr. Levi responded that the “expanded” site already has lots of room. Any additional space could potentially be used for field space.

Mr. Franco asked about the Schedule and Cost Risk factors for the Village site. Mr. Levi responded that the firm has not done any borings at the site. Additional information

could come in over the next six weeks that could impact the rating. Their Civil Engineers know the area. Historical usage includes a gas station and a factory.

In response to a question from Mr. Wishinsky, Mr. Levi stated that the estimated cost range for the Village Site covers gross costs, and does not include offsets from a supermarket.

Ms. Ditkoff asked for clarification on the Baldwin Deed Restriction rating. Mr. Levi noted that partnerships/agreements would need to be finalized and there is need for additional legal work. Soule has some deed restrictions. The Boards discussed Article 97 restrictions.

Ms. Ditkoff questioned the Provides Future Expansion Potential factor, noting that if another section is needed it would most likely be put across town.

e. Review of Upcoming Meeting Schedule and Process for Additional Public Input

Mr. Wishinsky and Ms. Ditkoff explained the next steps: continue to meet with Town Departments and commissions (Building Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Planning Board, Preservation Commission, Conservation Commission, Advisory Committee and related subcommittees); upcoming meetings (September 14, 2016 Open House at Baker School, September 22, 2016 Public Hearing on Site Selection Study, September 28, 2016 Open House at Pierce School, and October 13, 2016 Joint School Committee and Board of Selectmen meeting to make a final site selection. Ongoing updates and information on how to provide written input can be found on the School Website (www.brookline.k12.ma.us/school9).

The Joint Meeting of the School Committee and Board of Selectmen adjourned at 9:00 PM. The School Committee continued its regular meeting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Brookline resident Matt Amory requested that the School Committee consider joining other municipalities and School Committees in opposition to Question 2 on Charter Schools. He asked the School Committee to consider the potential impact on districts that are not well funded and that are under significant financial pressure.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

a. Finance

i. FY 2018 Budget Development Process Calendar (1st Reading)

Ms. Stram presented the proposed FY 2018 Budget Development Process Calendar (Attachment E). Ms. Dunn will modify the Calendar to clarify which capital committee is meeting. The School Committee will be asked to vote on the proposed Calendar on September 22, 2016.

ii. FY 2018 School Committee Budget Development Guidelines and Priorities (1st Reading)

Ms. Stram presented the proposed FY 2018 Budget Development Guidelines and Priorities (Attachment F). The School Committee will be asked to vote on the proposed Guidelines and Priorities on September 22, 2016.

Ms. Stram reported that the Finance Subcommittee met on September 7, 2016. In addition to the two items above, the Subcommittee discussed priorities for the year. One goal is to complete the budget development process by February 15 in order to comply with Town By-laws and so that we can start the hiring process earlier and therefore have access to a larger and more diverse pool of applicants. The budget development process will include increased collaboration with other departments.

School Committee members asked for additional information on several items: contingency funds (not trying to eliminate them, but we want to be more explicit about their intended use); State Kindergarten grant (working on a plan to address the shortfall); inclusion of legislative mandates in the Budget Guidelines and Priorities (important to highlight Educator Evaluation and RETELL-Rethinking Equity and Teaching for English Language Learners; highlight those that have a significant cost impact; don't include items that are "subject to appropriation"); and classroom aides in kindergarten and first grade (team of educators will be working together to develop a specific recommendation).

The next meeting of the Finance Subcommittee will take place on October 17, 2016.

b. Capital Improvements

Mr. Pollak reported that the Building Commission met on September 6, 2016 and heard an update on the Devotion project. He also reported on meetings related to the selection of a site for a 9th Elementary School (Building Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Planning Board, Preservation Commission, Conservation Commission, Advisory Committee and Subcommittees) as well as the upcoming Open Houses and Joint Meetings with the Selectmen. Mr. Pollack provided an update on the Brookline High School Expansion Project. The Committee of 7 will be interviewing three firms and Board members and administrators will be touring three high schools..

c. Curriculum

Ms. Scotto reported that the next meeting of the Curriculum Subcommittee will take place on September 29, 2016. The agenda will include review of the District MCAS Results and Subcommittee planning for FY 2017.

d. Government Relations

Ms. Stone noted today's election. In addition, she noted that the School Committee has been asked to take a position on Question 2 on Charter Schools. Ms.

Stone asked that School Committee members contact her if they would like the Committee to do so.

e. Policy Review

Dr. Jackson presented the proposed Public Schools of Brookline Financial Assistance Policy (Attachment G). She explained the changes to the document presented on July 11, 2016.

ACTION 16-59

On a motion of Dr. Jackson and seconded by Ms. Stram, the School Committee VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the Public Schools of Brookline Financial Assistance Policy, as shown in Attachment G.

Dr. Jackson reported that the next meeting of the Policy Review Subcommittee will take place on September 15, 2016. The agenda will include review and discussion of a proposed Public Schools of Brookline (PSB) Meal Charges Policy, review and discussion of a proposed PSB Hazing Policy, and discussion of proposed procedures/policies related to Opioid Use. At a future date, the Subcommittee will be addressing the need for a policy on Home Schooling.

f. Additional Liaisons and Updates

There was nothing to report.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

8. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

By unanimous roll call vote at 10:10 PM, the School Committee entered into Executive Session for Purpose 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (Brookline Educators Union-Units A, B, and Paraprofessionals). By unanimous roll call vote at 11:00 PM, the School Committee reconvened in public session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Ditkoff adjourned the meeting at 11:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin E. Coyne, Executive Assistant
Brookline School Committee